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Madeline Deveran

(Signature of person mailing)

Madeline Deveran

(Typed or printed name of person)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Mark Edward Bunnage, et al. :

APPLICATION NO.: 10/724,805

: Examiner: McKenzie, Thomas C.

FILING DATE: December 1, 2003

: Group Art Unit: 1624

TITLE: Novel Process For The Preparation of
Pyrazolopyrimidinones

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

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*See app'd
only*

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 13, 2004, requiring a response by December 13, 2004.

Please enter the following amendments to the specification and the claims:

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dehydrogenation – would have the knowledge of any number of standard dehydrogenation methods. The literature is replete with appropriate reagents and reactions suitable for use in dehydrogenation processes of compounds. A process chemist having several years of experience would be extremely familiar with the various methods of dehydrogenation and would not need to engage in undue experimentation to perform various types of dehydrogenation on the compound of Formula II.

Applicants submit that Claims 18-23 and 28-30 are enabled, such that one of ordinary skill in the art could perform the dehydrogenation reaction required therein. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejection of Claims 18-23 and 28-30.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection of Claim 27

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Macor (U.S. 6,087,368). In particular, the Examiner points out that the compounds of Formula IIIA, wherein $R^a = CH_3$, $R^3 = propyl$ and $R^4 = methyl$ or ethyl are described at Col. 36 of Macor.

Applicants amended Claim 27. Accordingly, the rejection is now rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all points and concerns raised by the Examiner, Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable action in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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